

November 26, 2023 "Be Devoted To One Another" Rick Raines rraines@fairmountcc.org

In the Bible, the phrase "one another" leads the church to **unity** and **strength**.

"<u>Love</u> one another."
 John 13:34

"A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

- "<u>Encourage</u> one another."
 <u>1 Thessalonians 5:11</u>
 Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.
- "<u>Be devoted</u> to one another."

Romans 12 provides a beautiful picture of the Church.

Romans 12:10-21

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The **devoted** church is:

- **Focused** on the Lord.
- **<u>Considerate</u>** of each other.
- <u>Unconcerned</u> for self.

Let's put three things on our plate:

- 1. Which one of these traits can I help someone with?
- 2. Which one of these traits do I need to work on?
- 3. Which one of these traits do I need to pray about?